

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Krinsky on 18 March 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1, line 7, after "inlet" insert --for a free flowing substance to be filtered--;

Line 10, change "and" to --the inlet leading tangentially into the container; --

Line 12, after "container" insert --; and wherein the two or more spindles are rotated by the free flowing substance introduced by the tangential inlet and without the use of a motor drive--;

Claims 2 and 19 are canceled;

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 has been amended to include an inlet leading tangentially into the container and additionally the spindles are rotated by the free flowing substance introduced by the tangential inlet and without the use of a motor drive. All of the prior art devices applied against the claims rely upon a motor drive with only two employing a tangential inlet. Brunsell '188 and Bumpers'156 employ a tangential inlet but similarly rely on a motor drive unit to achieve a high rotational speed for their single spindle filter disks.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M. Lithgow whose telephone number is 571-272-1162. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. -Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thomas M. Lithgow/

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